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7 October 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Dr. Scoville's Memorandum Attached  
on the Subject of Consultants

1. This memorandum has attached to it Dr. Scoville's memorandum [redacted] 3 October 1957), which contains recommendations for action in paragraph 5.

2. I heartily endorse the proposal put forward by Dr. Scoville in paragraph 5 of the attached memorandum.

3. I would like to add these comments:

a. It is very important, it seems to me, to exploit TALENT photography to the fullest extent and as quickly as possible. It is clear on several grounds that the maximum use of experts from outside the Government can be achieved only if they are TALENT-cleared and have access to full information.

b. In order to achieve maximum security, I believe it best to clear the bare minimum of consultants from outside the Government to meet the entire needs of the intelligence community.

[redacted] I also feel that there should be no inhibition against individual agencies using these consultants separately as long as such consultation does not interfere with the common effort.

c. The most advanced equipment and techniques in the exploitation of TALENT photography to date among the US Government agencies is located in the Agency's facility at

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HTAUTOMAT. This reason, plus the now accepted practice of working together in that center on the part of the Army and Navy, as well as the geographic proximity of that location to intelligence analysts in the IAC agencies, strongly suggests to me that the work with outside consultants should be located in HTAUTOMAT.

d. In the event that the Air Force does not see its way clear to participate in the group effort as proposed by Dr. Scoville at HTAUTOMAT, I believe it would be inadvisable to oppose any effort on their own at Wright-Patterson Airfield, nor would I oppose their use of the consultants who have been cleared provided there was no interference with the common effort at HTAUTOMAT. Whereas there are gains to be made in cooperative efforts, I think we should recognize that unilateral research on AQUATONE photography on the part of one of the intelligence agencies may actually produce new findings or different approaches which may terminate in benefit to all concerned.

RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.  
Project Director

Attachment

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JQR:cw

- 1-Project Director
- 2-JQR
- 3-RMB